Dear Friends of the Alliance,

Annual Greetings! Our 28th year brought another superb lecture series and another busy year for the Alliance. The Alliance supported the following community events: Simcha Sunday, the Jewish World Watch Walk to End Genocide in Santa Rosa sponsored by teenage Genocide activist Gabe Ferrick, the Annual Community Yom HaShoah Commemoration at the Friedman Center, the Yom HaShoah Candle Lighting Ceremony at Shomrei Torah, the 96th Annual Armenian Genocide Commemoration, and the 17th Annual Tutsi Genocide Commemoration at the Sacramento State University. Alliance Board members not only supported the Third International Genocide Conference at Sacramento State University co-sponsored by the SSU Center and Friends of Rwanda but Board Members Hans Angress, Lillian Mattimore, and Barbara Lesch McCaffry, Ph.D. presented papers at the conference. I was honored as guest speaker at the Yom HaShoah commemoration at Shomrei Torah and 17th Annual Tutsi Genocide Commemoration.

We welcomed three new board members in 2011: Arline Thomas, Rancho Cotate High School teacher, Lionel Rawlins, Ph.D., Friends of Rwanda, and Zina Besirevic, Bosnian Genocide Survivor. We had to say goodbye to Rich Morley who relocated to Southern California and look forward to B.J. Stolbov’s return home after a 2 year commitment with the Peace Corps in the Philippines. We continue to seek new board members, especially to fulfill representation from all genocides, and welcome anyone interested in joining the board.

Moving into our 29th year would not be possible without your kind contributions and we are truly grateful for your continued financial support as well as attending our lecture series and speaker dinners.

We once again acknowledge special appreciation to the Jewish Community Federation of San Francisco, The Peninsula, Marin, and Sonoma Counties whose very generous grant for a third year will support the 2012 Robert L. Harris Memorial Lecture and reception.

With deepest gratitude,

Christyne Davidian
President, Alliance for the Study of the Holocaust and Genocide
Email: alliance@sonoma.edu

Honoring Alliance Founder Sylvia Sucher on her 98th birthday

Alliance Mission Statement

Our Mission
Honor the experience and preserve the memory of the innocent victims, survivors, and rescuers impacted by the tragedy of genocide
Support Holocaust and Genocide education in conjunction with the Center for the Study of the Holocaust and Genocide at Sonoma State University

Our Work
Attract, collaborate, and coordinate with scholars, survivors, and experts
Outreach to our community, schools, and survivor groups
Seek funding and support methods to preserve memory

Our Vision
Inspire a “never again” moral stance that focuses on our common humanity
Promote personal action and proactive prevention awareness of the causes of intolerance, genocide, and denial
2011 was another active year for the Center. The 28th Annual Lecture Series: “History, Memory and Testimony” featured several compelling lectures: Holocaust survivors Hans Angress, Vera Korkus, Lillian Mattimore, Maurice Blaug and Paul Schwarzbart shared their experiences. Dr. James Waller presented his powerful lecture that explains how given the right set of circumstances, all individuals are capable of doing great harm to others. In Genocide Beneath Our Feet, Greg Sarris, Chairman of the Federated Indians of the Graton Rancheria, returned to the Warren Auditorium podium to speak on the continuing effects of the eradication of Native American culture in Marin and Sonoma counties. In addition to Dr. Michael Berenbaum, who presented the Robert L. Harris Memorial Lecture, we were awed by a spirited performance: “Armenian Lullaby and Folk Traditions” by Hasmik Harutyunyan and Kitka Women’s Vocal Ensemble. The Armenian Genocide Memorial Lecture featured Sergio LaPorta, Ph.D. and Carl Wilkins’ inspiring story, “The World Outside My Shoes” was presented in cooperation with the SSU IRA fund. We were also moved by Dr. Lucia Roncalli’s lecture which outlined the dimensions of the Cambodian Genocide.

On November 2-4 2011, the Center co-sponsored the Third International Genocide Conference at Sacramento State University. Mathilde Mukantabana, a member of the Alliance for the Study of the Holocaust and Genocide Board, was a principle conference organizer. The Center underwrote the keynote speech by Dr. James Waller. In addition to introducing Dr. Waller, I was the organizer of a panel entitled: Genocide in Bosnia, Sudan and the Pedagogy of Teaching Genocide. Dr. Barbara Lesch McCaffrey presented her paper, “Fractured Lives: Family and Identity in Holocaust Memoirs of Hidden Children.” Hans Angress and Lillian Mattimore presented papers at the panel on Survivor Memories. Alliance Board members Hans Angress, Larry Carlin, Flora Lee Ganzler, Lillian Mattimore, Mathilde Mukantabana, Lionel Rawlins, Ph.D. (a conference organizer) and David Salm, retired Alliance Board and Senior Advisor, attended. Sergio LaPorta, Ph.D. and Ara Oshagan, who had been invited to speak at the conference by Christyne Davidian, participated in the Armenian Genocide Panel.

The 2012 series “Lessons and Legacies: Learning from the Past,” will feature several distinguished speakers. Sergio La Porta, Ph.D. will present the Armenian Genocide Memorial Lecture. Also, this year in cooperation with SSU’s Associated Students Productions (ASP), we will feature filmmaker Socheata Poeuv who will introduce and comment on her film “New Year Baby,” an award winning exploration of the legacies of the Cambodian Genocide. The series will also feature lectures on the genocide in Kosovo and the origins of current conditions in the Sudan. The Robert L. Harris Lecture will feature Claudia Stevens, Ph.D. in her one woman exploration of the legacies of the Holocaust: “An Evening with Madame F.”

The Center received several generous donations this past year, including a continuing award from Henry and Lucille Libicki through the Jewish Community Federation Endowment. The family of Adele Zygielbaum established a memorial fund in her memory and the proceeds are being used to support the Series and the work of the Center. The 2011 Series was also supported, in part, through a generous grant from the Sonoma State University Instructionally Related Activities Fund which is supported by student fees. Associated Student Productions (ASP) continued their strong support and, thanks to Bruce Berkowitz and Casey Kelly, we co-sponsored the presentation of Carl Wilkens who refused to leave Rwanda when all Western citizens were evacuated during the genocide.

Our work this year has also benefited from the encouragement and support of the Alliance Board. I am most appreciative of the strong support I have received from Christyne Davidian and Barbara Lesch McCaffry. Community and board member support on behalf of our work is deeply appreciated; it assures the continuing success of our mission.

We are very excited about the forthcoming dedication of the Anne Frank sapling on May 20, 2012 at the Holocaust and Genocide Memorial. I look forward to seeing you at the 2012 Series which promises to be exceptional.

Myrna Goodman, Ph.D.
Director, Center for the Study of the Holocaust and Genocide
The story of a sapling taken from the horse chestnut tree that often lifted Anne Frank’s spirits as she hid from the Nazis during World War II took a poignant twist last year. SSU was one of 11 locations nationwide that had received a sapling in December 2009 taken from the mature, aging tree that resided behind the Annex where Anne Frank, her family and friends spent two years in hiding.

By August 2010, the 150-year-old chestnut that was the parent of the SSU sapling was toppled by strong winds after battling fungus and moth infestations for several years. Thankfully, the legacy will live on.

The sapling is currently growing in a special shade house under lock and key for three years supervised by Sam Youney, Director of Landscaping, who is an expert in plant diseases and pest control. It is protected so rain, rodents and insects cannot penetrate it. Arriving as an 18-inch tall cutting, it now has reached three feet in height, says Youney.

In three years, the sapling will be planted at the foot of the Erna and Arthur Salm Holocaust & Genocide Memorial Grove near the campus lakes area which now features a ten-foot tall light tower sculpture created by SSU Professor Jann Nunn. Signage near the tree will carry the words written by Frank in her diary: “How wonderful it is that nobody need wait a single moment before starting to improve the world.”

To greater accomplish its educational goals, the Anne Frank Center USA (AFC) together with the Anne Frank House in Amsterdam donated the eleven saplings of the Anne Frank Tree to sites across the country.

The Grove is designed to honor survivors and victims of the genocides committed throughout the world, including the Native American Genocide, the Armenian Genocide, the Jewish Holocaust, the Cambodian Genocide, the Rwandan Genocide, and the current-day genocide in Darfur. Another aim of the monument is to recognize educators, scholars and activists working for awareness, tolerance and human rights across the globe.

“The addition of the Anne Frank tree solidifies the SSU campus as a major center on the West Coast for the study of the Holocaust and genocide,” says Elaine Leeder, Dean of School of Social Sciences. “It will provide eventually a vast canopy under which the University Holocaust Lecture Series and the academic and educational programs throughout Northern California will continue for generations.”

Hans Angress of Santa Rosa, who went to school with Anne Frank in the fall of 1941, says “Anne Frank has become such a symbol of the human toll of intolerance worldwide. I find it wonderful and appropriate that this living asset to SSU’s already existing Memorial Grove will be added.”

The choice of SSU is a “perfect fit,” says Senior Director for Capital Planning, Design and Construction Christopher Dinno. “We live in a world-renowned region with the climate and soil characteristics that are ideal for this historical sapling.”

SSU has the experience and resources, including an onsite arborist who can nurture the tree, along with a full complement of landscape specialists that have demonstrated experience to ensure that this sapling grows to full maturity, he says.

Other saplings were sent to: The White House, The Children’s Museum of Indianapolis, Southern Cayuga School District, Washington State Holocaust Resource Center, Boston Common, Central High School in Little Rock, Ark., the Holocaust Memorial Center, the Idaho Anne Frank Human Rights Memorial, the William J. Clinton Foundation and the National September 11 Memorial & Museum.

Resources
Erna and Arthur Salm Holocaust and Genocide Memorial Grove: www.sonoma.edu/holocaust/grove
Anne Frank Center USA: www.annefrank.com
In Memoriam

Holocaust Survivors:
- Elsie Rich
- Margit Friedlander Stuart
- Ann Weinstock
- Paul Lichtman
- Bill Lowenberg
- Vern Drehmel
- Michael Berkes
- Danish Resistance Rescuer: Knud Dyby

2012 Holocaust and Genocide Commemorations

The Annual Sonoma County Yom Hashoah Commemoration will be held at the Friedman Center, 4676 Mayette Avenue, Santa Rosa, CA 95405 on Sunday, April 22nd, from 2-4 p.m. The theme will be Remembering Home: Memories and Music from the Lost Communities. For more information, contact the Jewish Community Center at 707-528-4222.

Congregation Shomrei Torah (CST) will host their annual Yom Hashoah Holocaust memorial observance at 7 p.m. on Wed., April 18th, the actual Day of Remembrance, in the Sanctuary at 2600 Bennett Valley Rd. in Santa Rosa. The service will honor the six million Jews who died in the Holocaust, and others including the Gays & Lesbians, Gypsy (Roma), Disabled, Political Prisoners, and Righteous Gentiles who helped hide or rescue Jews. Special guest will be Hans Angress, who will speak on behalf of the Survivors. The annual service will also feature a Candle Lighting Memorial on behalf of other genocides, including Native America, Armenia, Cambodia, Rwanda and Darfur. For more information, contact Larry Carlin at larrcar@comcast.net, phone: 707 569-8879.

Jewish World Watch Walk to End Genocide, Saturday, April 22nd, 8 a.m., Congregation Shomrei Torah, 2600 Bennett Valley Rd. in Santa Rosa. For more information, google: Walk to End Genocide Santa Rosa.

April 24th marks the world-wide commemoration of the Armenian Genocide. The SF Bay Area Armenian Genocide Commemoration Committee will hold the 97th Annual Commemoration Events at Mount Davidson Cross on Sunday afternoon, April 22nd and Tuesday evening, April 24th. For more information, see www.agccnc.org. The SF Bay Area Armenian National Committee also coordinates events throughout the month of April. For information, see http://www.ancsf.org.

The 18th Annual Commemoration of the Tutsi Genocide by the Friends of Rwanda Association (FORA) will include a national genocide commemoration in Washington D.C. on April 7th and on April 21st in Sacramento. For more information, see the web page of the Friends of Rwanda Association at: http://www.friends-of-rwanda.org/.

Education Committee Report

The Education Committee continues to reach out to Sonoma County schools about the lecture series, survivor speakers, and archived lectures. Of special interest, this year included a presentation on the SSU Lecture Series to the principal and staff at Rancho Cotate High School initiated by new Board Member Arline Thomas in conjunction with Board Member Flora Lee Ganzler. Board members Hans Angress and Lillian Mattimore spoke about their personal survivor stories. The information presented by our board members during the half hour allowed by Rancho Cotate was very well received and improve awareness of the value of our program.

Myrna Goodman and Michael Berenbaum at Harris Reception

Harris Memorial Lecture Reception Guests

Gesher Calmenson, Barbara Tobin, and Barbara Lesch Caffry

Mathilde Mukantabana, Keynote Speaker at Jewish World Watch Walk in Santa Rosa

Alliance Boards Members Larry Carlin and Flora Lee Ganzler at Simcha Sunday
Giving to the Alliance

Your kind gift to the Alliance for the Study of the Holocaust and Genocide can be submitted using the enclosed envelope. Please designate the fund to which you wish to make your gift:

- **Paul V. Benko Holocaust Education Endowment Fund (E022):** This endowment fund, named for an SSU faculty member who was one of the founding members of the Alliance, supports the lecture series on the Holocaust and Genocide offered annually at Sonoma State University.

- **Alliance for the Study of the Holocaust Annual SSU Lecture Series Fund (C0119):** This fund supports Holocaust and Genocide Education including the lecture series and the annual Robert L. Harris Memorial Lecture that is part of the series.

- **Armenian Genocide Memorial Lecture Fund (C0286):** This fund supports an annual lecture related to the Armenian Genocide as part of the lecture series.

- **Adele Zygielbaum Endowment Fund (E0396):** This endowment fund, created in memory of a Holocaust survivor, supports Holocaust and Genocide Education including the lecture series.

- **Guest Lecturer Hospitality Fund (not tax deductible):** This fund supports speaker dinner costs.

You can also donate directly online through Sonoma State University “Give Online” system:

- go to: https://www.sonoma.edu/development/
- click on the green button on the left side of the screen for “Give Online”
- click on Schools, Departments & Programs
- click on School of Social Sciences

To donate to the Alliance for the Study of the Holocaust Annual SSU Lecture Series Fund (C0119), please select the button for The Alliance for the Study of the Holocaust. To donate to all other funds, please select the button for “Other” and indicate the name of the fund and its associated fund number in the designated box. You can also include information here if you would like us to send someone else an acknowledgement of your gift.

Further questions on donations can be directed to the Alliance at alliance@sonoma.edu

2011 Donations

We would like to express our gratitude to the following donors who made it possible for us to continue the work for those who founded the Alliance.

**Paul V. Benko Holocaust Education Endowment Fund**
Diane Dorfman
Terry L. Eggleston (Mission Prosthodontics)
Evelyn Gurevitch, in memory of Paul Benko
Betty Kale, in memory of Harold Kale
Rudy Lacco & Peggy Hammitt, in memory of Paul Benko
Marcelle & Kenneth Marcus
Ruth & Steven Nash, in memory of Paul Benko
Phyllis & Douglas Nesbitt, in memory of Berthe, Jacob and Cecile Wolf who died in Auschwitz
Mr. & Mrs. Irving Piotrkowski
Suzy & Robert Rulfal, in memory of Paul Benko
Sylvia Sucher
Roberta Zucker

**Alliance for the Study of the Holocaust Lecture Series Fund**
Herbert Hans Angress, in memory of Werner T. Angress
Johanna & Maurice Blaug, in honor of the lecture series
Cary Colett (Computers & More, Inc.), in honor of the birthday of Ilse Colett and in memory of Dr. Walter Colett
Howard R. Harris, in memory of his wife, Iris Hepps Harris
Nancy R. Harris, in memory of Robert & Claire Harris
Lillian Judd, in memory of Emil Judd
Martin Klein
Vera Korkus, in honor of the Alliance
Robin A. Lowitz, in honor of Lilian Judd
Marcelle & Kenneth Marcus

**Barbara Lesch McCaffry & Michael “Mac” McCaffry, in memory of Paul Lichtman and Helen Margolese**
Mathilde Mukantabana, in honor of Sylvia Sucher’s 98th Birthday
Joseph F. Schwartz
Arlene Thomas, in honor of Sylvia Sucher’s 98th Birthday
Barbara Tobin & Cass Smith
Willow Creek Financial Services Fund of the Community Foundation of Sonoma County
A generous grant from the Jewish Community Federation of San Francisco, the Peninsula, Marin and Sonoma Counties

**Adele Zygielbaum Endowment Fund**
Arthur & Christine Zygielbaum

**SSU Center for the Study of the Holocaust and Genocide**
Jewish Community Federation Endowment
Lucille & Henry Libicki
A generous grant from the Sonoma State University Instructionally-Related Activities Fund and matching funds from Sonoma State University Associated Student Productions

**Armenian Genocide Memorial Lecture Fund**
Lynn Arsanis, in Honor of Margaret Parokia Arsanis and in memory of The Parokia Family
Larissa Goliti
Motorola Foundation Volunteer Grant for Christyne Davidian
Berge Roubinian, in memory of his father, a Genocide Survivor

**Guest Lecturer Hospitality Fund**
Jan & George Farber
Alliance History

The Alliance for the Study of the Holocaust was formed in 1982 on behalf of the victims and survivors of the Holocaust and the need to tell their stories and for others to learn from their experiences. Those who began this collaborative effort between the community and members of the Sonoma State University faculty promised to let the world know of the atrocities that had occurred. The initial intention was primarily to learn the facts, act on them, and never forget.

As a result of these efforts, a highly successful annual lecture series on the Holocaust and Genocide was created at Sonoma State University. As a University-community partnership, the Board includes members of the community, University faculty and administrators, and students who have participated in the Lecture Series. In 2010, the name of the Alliance was changed to the Alliance for the Study of the Holocaust and Genocide to reflect its revised mission and its continuing educational commitment to include all those affected by genocide.

Alliance Board Members
Herbert Hans Angress: Survivor Speaker and Education Committee
Zina Besirevic: Bosnian Genocide Representative
Brian Boyajan: Liaison to Armenians of the North Bay
Larry Carlin: Public Relations and Shomrei Torah Yom Hashoah Liaison
Christyne Davidian: President, Liaison to Armenians of the North Bay, and Education Committee
Flora Lee Ganzler: Education and Membership Committees
Myrna Goodman: Director of the Center for the Study of the Holocaust and Genocide
Lillian Mattimore: Liaison to the Shomrei Torah Second Generation Survivor Group
Yehoyada Mbangukira: Liaison to the Friends of Rwanda Association
Barbara Lesch McCaffry: Treasurer and Sonoma County Yom Hashoah Commemoration Liaison
Michael “Mac” McCaffry: Currently on Leave
Mathilde Mukantabana: Liaison to the Friends of Rwanda Association
Lionel Rawlins, Liaison to the Friends of Rwanda Association
B. J. Stolbov: Currently on Leave

Senior Advisors
Virgil Miller
Joel Neuberg
David Salm
Sylvia Sucher

Associate Board Member
Dean Elaine Leeder

Emeritus Board Members
Ilka Hartmann
Evelyn “Evey” Sackler
29th Annual Sonoma State University
2012 Holocaust and Genocide Lecture Series
January 17–May 8, 2012/ Tuesdays 4:00 PM–5:40 PM
Warren Auditorium (Ives Hall)

SSU Students: SOCI 365, Perspectives on the Holocaust and Genocide
counts as upper-division General Education credit under GE category D5,
and towards the B.A. Degree in CCR, English, Global Studies, History, Liberal Arts, Nursing,
Philosophy, Political Science, Psychology, Sociology, and the Arts and Sciences of Liberal Studies.

LEGACIES AS LESSONS: LEARNING FROM THE PAST

January 17: INTRODUCTION TO THE SERIES
Myrna Goodman, Ph.D., Sonoma State University

January 24: HOLOCAUST IN HISTORICAL PERSPECTIVE
Stephen Bitner, Ph.D., Sonoma State University

January 31: BREAKING THE SILENCE: A HOLOCAUST CHILDHOOD
Paul A. Schwarzbart

February 7: FROM NIGHTMARE TO FREEDOM
Lillian and Dennis Judd

February 14: THE ARMENIAN GENOCIDE
Sergio LaPorta, Ph.D., CSU Fresno Armenian Studies Program

February 21: GENOCIDE IN SUDAN
Hamdan Goumara, Global Majority

February 28: LESSONS LEARNED FROM A HOLOCAUST CHILDHOOD
Hans Angelis

March 6: NEW YEAR BABY
Socheata Pouv, Founder: Khmer Legacies

March 13: FIGHTING GENOCIDE AND MASS ATROCITIES:
EMPOWERING HANDS-ON ACTION
Mina Rush, Director of Outreach, Jewish World Watch

March 20: PERSPECTIVES ON INTERNATIONAL WAR CRIMES
Eric Williams, Ph.D., Sonoma State University

March 27: SPRING BREAK (campus closed)

APRIL 3: LEGACIES AS LESSONS:
THE AFTERMATH OF GENOCIDE IN RWANDA

Mathilde Mukantabana MA, President FORA, and Simon Mudahigorora, Rwandan Survivor

APRIL 10: BECOMING EVIL
James Wailer, Ph.D., Cohen Endowed Chair of Holocaust and Genocide Studies

Keene State College

April 17: REMEMBERING ANNE FRANK
Film and Discussion

April 24: MASS KILLINGS IN BOSNIA
Lejla Mavric, Program Director, Global Majority

May 1: AN EVENING WITH MADAME F
Claudia Stevens, D.M.A., College of William and Mary

Robert L. Harris Memorial Lecture

May 8: WHAT HAVE WE LEARNED?
Student/Faculty Panel

To view prior lectures see:
http://www.sonoma.edu/holocaust/lectures/previous.html
or see: http://www.sonoma.edu/holocaust/ for more information

The Holocaust Lecture Series is sponsored by the Alliance for the Study of the Holocaust and Genocide,
The Paul V. and Beno Holocaust Education Endowment, the Armenian Genocide Memorial Lecture Fund, the
Adad Ziyadoukas Endowment, the Thomas Family Foundation, the Center for the Study of the
Holocaust and Genocide, the Sonoma State Students’ Instructionally Related Activities (IRA) Fund
and the Jewish Community Federation (JDF) of San Francisco, the Peninsula, Marin and Sonoma Counties.

Study the nature of hate: Prevent the escalation of prejudice into genocide

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An imagined view of the Anne Frank horse chestnut tree at maturity that would provide canopy at the Holocaust and Genocide Memorial Grove.